Postdoctoral Research Fellowship – Data Science in Sport

School for Data Science and Computational Thinking &
Centre for Sport Leadership, Maties Sport
Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch 7600, South Africa

Position:

Stellenbosch University's School for Data Science and Computational Thinking, in collaboration with the Centre for Sport Leadership at Maties Sport, is looking for an outstanding candidate to support of a research agenda promoting the role of data science in sport. The successful candidate will have an excellent academic record within the field of data science and an aspiration to pursue sport related research.

Research undertaken for this fellowship will take place in a dynamic, multidisciplinary environment and will enable the candidate to contribute to the further growth of both the School for Data Science and Computational Thinking as well as the Centre for Sport Leadership. Consequently this represents an ideal opportunity for a candidate who is self-directed, ambitious and capable of delivering on research plans to take the next step in their academic career.

The position's primary requirement will be to perform excellent research along the intersection between data science and sport and in line with Stellenbosch University's overarching objective to deliver impactful research. Potential sub-themes could include the following:

- The use of data in sport within low resource settings
- Data-driven decision making in coaching and sport management
- Using the power of data to solve sport industry challenges

The successful candidate will produce peer reviewed research outputs, while taking on additional duties including writing funding proposals, liaising with different stakeholders, assisting with the expansion of short course offerings, as well as assisting with other academic related activities. The candidate will report to both the

Director of the School for Data Science and Computational Thinking as well as the Head of the Centre for Sport Leadership.

The fellowship is available for a minimum period of one year, with the possibility of two additional one-year extensions depending on satisfactory performance. The estimated start date is 1 July 2021, or as soon thereafter as feasible. A scholarship amount of ZAR 320 000 per annum is available. Please also note that postdoctoral fellows are not appointed as employees and are therefore not eligible for employee benefits. Postdoctoral fellowships are, however, awarded tax free.

Requirements for the Position:

The minimum requirements for the position are as follows:

- A Ph.D obtained within the past five years, within the field of data science.
- A promising research record and demonstrated ability to do multidisciplinary research and to work independently.

Candidates whose applications demonstrate the following will have an additional advantage:

- Ability to write successful funding proposals.
- Previous peer reviewed research publications along sport related themes.

Applications:

Please read this section carefully, as incomplete submissions will not be considered.

Applicants need to submit the following application documentation:

- **Complete curriculum vitae**, detailing all research outputs and names and contact details of _at least_ 2 academic referees.

- **A cover letter** explaining how your work will make a contribution to the broader theme of data science within sport, and how the position will help further your own research career.
- **A research plan** of maximum 3 pages, where you provide a research proposal for a hypothetical project lasting approximately 9 months, and where you detail how and where data will be obtained and what the anticipated outputs will be.

Applications and inquiries need to be emailed to Dr Gustav Venter, Head of the Centre for Sport Leadership: gbventer@sun.ac.za

The deadline for applications is 16 May 2021. Stellenbosch University reserves the right not to fill the position.